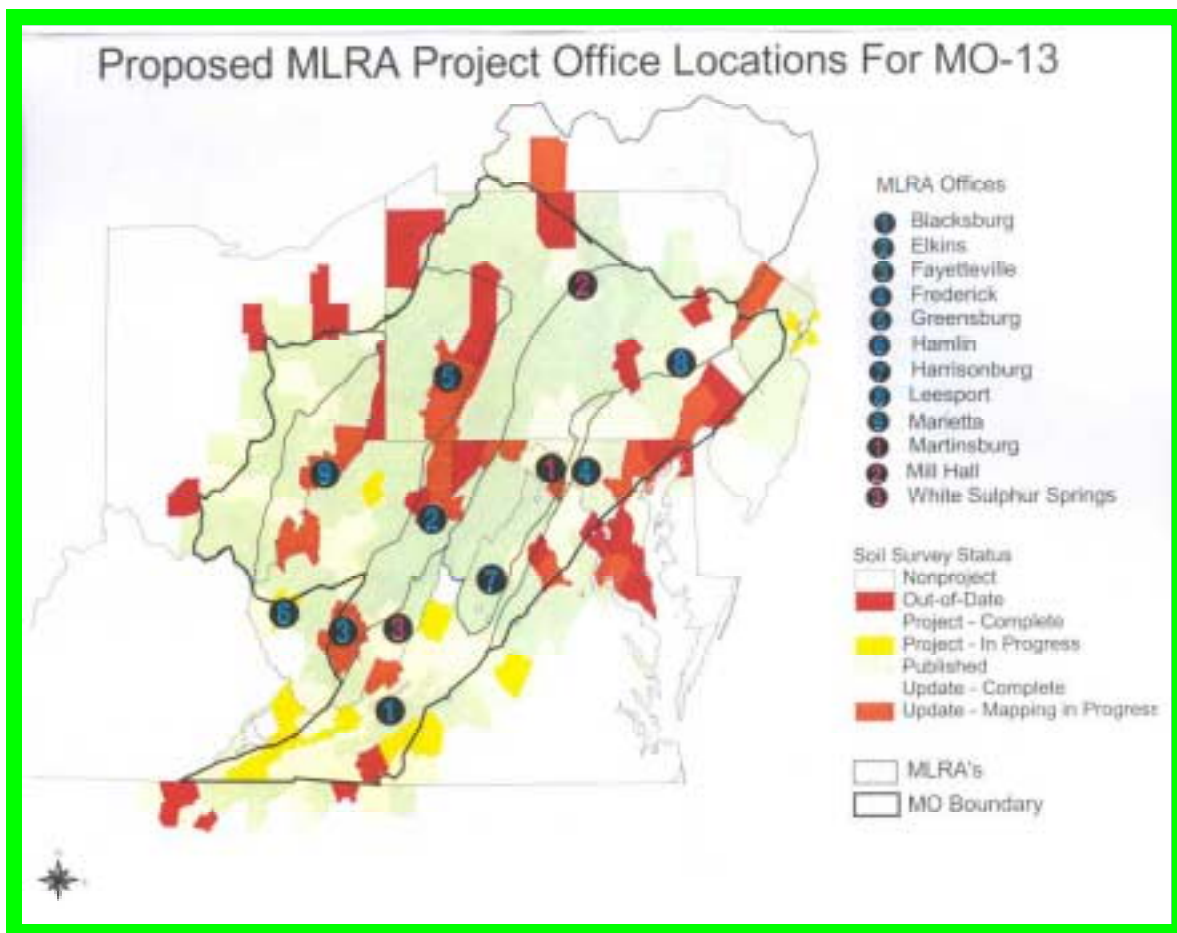


# Central Appalachian Region

## MLRA Soil Survey Region 13

### 2002 Business Plan



Morgantown, West Virginia

September 2001

## Table of Contents

---

Acknowledgement .....	Page 2.
Vision and Mission Statements.....	Page 3.
Fiscal Year 2002 Priorities for the Program .....	Page 4.
Quality Assurance - Field Activity Schedule.....	Page 5
Program Goals .....	Page 9.
List of Figures and Appendices .....	Page 13.

---

---

# Acknowledgement



The information presented in this document is submitted to the MLRA Soil Survey Region 13 Board of Directors, state soil scientists, and conservation partners to achieve a common understanding of soil survey program goals, objectives, and overall direction. I welcome your feedback and point out that this is a dynamic document which can be changed or updated at any time during the year.

This business plan is founded on the NRCS strategic plan, the list of priorities of the NRCS Soils Division as outlined by the division director, state soil scientists, and conservation partnerships made up of the state soil conservation agencies, the soil conservation districts, and Agriculture and Forestry Experiment Stations.

WILLIAM J. HARTMAN

State Conservationist, West Virginia

## OUR MISSION .....

**Providing leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, improve our natural resources and environment through a better understanding of soils. We are committed to helping field staff develop and publish quality soil surveys.**

## OUR VISION .....

**"We want a soil survey program that the agency is proud of and committed to, where all people have an opportunity to contribute, learn, grow, and advance on merit... We want all staff to feel respected, treated fairly, listened to, and involved. Above all, we want satisfaction from accomplishment and friendships and to have fun in our work."**

## **Fiscal Year 2002 Priorities for the Soil Survey of the United States**

**These priorities support the Agency's Strategic Plan, the needs of the field, and conservation partnerships throughout the region:**

- 1) Implement and populate the Soil Data Warehouse;**
- 2) Transition soil information and activities from Iowa State University (ISU) Statistical Lab to the USDA Web Farm;**
- 3) Incorporate technical soil services and soil information delivery in NRCS workload analysis program;**
- 4) Significantly increase the number of soil surveys published; and**
- 5) Initiate National Soil Carbon Project and integrate with plan for dynamic soil properties data.**

### **MLRA Region 13 Office Priorities:**

- 1. Quality Assurance and field support.**
- 2. Increase number of surveys to print.**
- 3. Populate NASIS with quality data.**
- 4. Product delivery – make soil surveys more accessible.**
- 5. Complete revision of STATSGO and MLRA maps.**
- 6. Implement MLRA project concept in Maryland.**
- 7. Summarize data from Soil Phosphorus Study.**
- 8. Civil Rights and Outreach.**
- 9. SSURGO Certification support.**
- 10. Emphasize Technical Soil Services and Urban Interpretations.**
- 11. Provide training opportunities for field soil scientists in MO-13.**

## Priority 1. Quality Assurance

Goal: Conduct field reviews and field assistance visits as required for quality and technical accuracy.

### **TENTATIVE FY-2002 FIELD ACTIVITY SCHEDULE**

#### **October, 2001**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Staff</b>
15-19	PFR - Howard County, MD	Pyle
16-18	Soil Phosphorus Training (Conservation Partnership)	Carpenter/Mays
29-Nov2	PFR - Scott County, VA	Pyle
15-19	FAV – Floyd County, VA	Kingsbury
22-25	FAV - Preston/Tucker/Barbour	Topalanchik

#### **November 2001**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Staff</b>
5-9	West Area Appraisal	Carpenter
26-30	Q&A NRI (NJ, DE4, and MD)	Prescott

#### **December 2001**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Staff</b>
4-5	QA-QC NRI – Ripley	Prescott
6	Soil Survey Staff Meeting – West Virginia	All
10-14	NASIS Training (Introduction)	Bigler

## January 2002

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Staff</b>
23-24	Cartographic Review – No. Panhandle	Carpenter/Delp
28-31	MO Leader's Winter Business Meeting	Carpenter

## February 2002

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Staff</b>
4-8	<b>NASIS Training (Intermediate)</b>	<b>Bigler</b>
20-21	Cartographic Review – PTB	Staff
25-28	FFR – Howard County, MD	Staff

## March 2002

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Staff</b>
4-8	NASIS Training (Interpretations)	Nielson
11-15	PFR – Chester County, PA	Kingsbury
12-14	IFR – Monroe County, WV	Topalanchik
25-29	FAV – MLRA-127, Fayette and Raleigh Cos., WV	Topalanchik
25-29	PFR - Lincoln County, WV	Kingsbury

## April 2002

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Staff</b>
8-12	FAV – Clarion County, PA	Topalanchik
15-19	IFR – Barbour, Preston, Tucker Cos., WV	Topalanchik
15-18	FC – Bath County, VA	Staff
18-19	Tech Visit – Highland County, VA	Staff
22-26	Field Week No.1 (No. Panhandle)	Kingsbury/Staff
23-27	PFR – Russell County, VA	Flegel

## May 2002

Date	Activity	Staff
13-15	FAV – Potter County, PA	Topalanchik
13-17	FAV – Buchanan County, VA	Kingsbury
14-18	PFR – Rockbridge County, VA	Pyle

## June 2002

Date	Activity	Staff
4-8	PFR – Bland County, VA	Flegel
6-7	MO-13 Board of Directors – Savanna, GA	Carpenter
10-14	PFR – Buchanan County, VA	Kingsbury
10-14	PFR – Potter County, PA	Topalanchik
18-22	FC – Scott County, VA	Staff
24-28	NE Soil Survey Work Planning Conference, Watertown, NY	Staff

## July 2002

Date	Activity	Staff
8-12	PFR – Jackson and Mason Cos., WV	Topalanchik
15-19	PFR – Allegheny, NY	Topalanchik
22-26	PFR – Fayette and Raleigh Cos., WV	Topalanchik
22-26	PFR – Southeast Ohio (Marietta)	Kingsbury



## August 2002

Date	Activity	Staff
12-16	MO-13 Soil Survey Workshop (Beckley)	Staff
20-24	IFR – Jefferson County, WV	Staff

## September 2002

Date	Activity	Staff
9-13	PFR – Culpeper County, VA	Staff
16-20	IFR – Northern Panhandle, WV	Kingsbury
23-27	IFR – Carroll County, MD	Staff

### Activities Planned but not yet Scheduled

#### Final Correlations:

- Westmoreland Co., PA

#### **Staff**

Topalanchik

#### NRI Onsite Training – 2002 Onsite Inventory

Prescott

#### Final Field Review & Final Correlation:

- Morgan Co., WV

MO-13 Staff

## Priority 2. Significantly increase number of soil surveys to print.

Getting backlog soil surveys to print is a major priority for MO-13. We will continue to assign printing priority to those survey areas that have “maps ready.” We will also work closely with the states and the Digital Map Finishing Centers to provide editorial services and typesetting for publication by CD-ROM and web-based products as requested. See Appendix 1 “Manuscript Status.”

The following work on manuscripts is planned for 2002:

### Technical Edits 1/

Allegheny Co., VA (In-House)

Berks Co., PA (In-House)

Clay Co., WV (In-House)

Clinton Co. PA

Doddridge Co., WV

Greenbrier Co., WV

Knot-Letcher, Cos., KY (In-House)

Lehigh Co., PA

Morgan Co., WV

Westmoreland Co., PA

**GOAL:** Maintain an orderly flow of manuscripts through the publication system by coordination of maps ready at NCG and needs of the Digital Map Finishing Centers. **WHO:** McDaniel, Meierdierks

1/ In-House denotes manuscripts that are on file at the MO-13 office.

**GOAL:** Provide manuscript preparation support for field soil scientists as requested. **WHO:** Editorial Staff

**GOAL:** Editing/Publishing. Ensure Soil survey manuscripts are edited for accuracy. **WHO:** Meierdierks, McDaniel

**GOAL:** Complete soil mapping and updating on 425,000 acres in West Virginia. **WHO:** West Virginia soil survey staff.

### **Priority 3. Populate the NASIS database with quality data.**

**GOAL:** Hold three (3) NASIS training sessions for field soil scientists.  
**WHO:** Dobos, staff

**GOAL:** Continue to support project offices with one-on-one assistance.  
**WHO:** Dobos

**GOAL:** Work with NSSC staff to implement soil data warehouse.  
**WHO:** Dobos (as requested)

### **Priority 4. Product Delivery--make soil survey products more accessible and archive out-of-print surveys on CD-ROM.**

**GOAL:** Create CD-ROM archives for Preston, Tucker, Marshall, and Barbour Counties in West Virginia. **WHO:** Hiza

**GOAL:** Get Digital Map Finishing functional at the SSIC. Digitally map finish Gilmer and McDowell Counties in WV. **WHO:** Prescott, Delp, SSIC

Staff.

**Priority 5. Complete the revision of the STATSGO database and MLRA Maps and Handbook 296 by due dates.**

**GOAL:** Complete edits to MLRA boundary maps as recommended and create a final DRAFT for submission. **WHO:** MO staff, Prescott.  
**BY:** July 2002

**GOAL:** Complete Revision to STATSGO map as time will allow.  
**WHO:** MO staff, Delp

**Priority 6. Implement the expanded "Super" MLRA project office concept for project offices as opportunities emerge.**

**GOAL:** Continue to work with soils division and state conservationists, through the board of directors to promote and develop MLRA soil survey project offices. **WHO:** Hartman, Carpenter, Calhoun, and MO-13 Board of Directors.

**GOAL:** Develop MLRA leader positions for MLRAs 124, 126, 127, 147, and 148. **WHO:** Carpenter, Hartman, and MO-13 Board of Directors.

**GOAL:** Work with Maryland state staff to implement MLRA project office in Frederick, MD to serve MLRA -148. **WHO:** Carpenter, Pyle.

**GOAL:** Work with Maryland state staff to update the soil survey of Garrett Co. with MLRA-127 projects (Preston, Tucker, Barbour).

**GOAL:** Complete the MO-wide MOU and present to the board of directors in Savannah in June. **WHO:** Carpenter.

## **Priority 7. Complete field work for third phase of Soil Phosphorus Study and Summarize all Data.**

**GOAL:** Describe and characterize major soils in the Ohio River and valleys of West Virginia.

**GOAL:** Investigate the P retention capacity of surface and subsurface horizons and determine P loading of soil series based on P adsorption capacity and the degree of soil P saturation. **WHO:** Carpenter, WVU, and field staff.

**GOAL:** Keep NSSC informed of progress and status of soil P study.  
**WHO:** Carpenter

## **Priority 8. Civil Rights and Outreach in the soil survey Program.**

**GOAL:** Assist in the identification of under-served communities and assist in obtaining needed information provided by outreach efforts in individual states in the MO-13 region.

**GOAL:** Assist state leadership teams in developing a staffing plan that meets the needs and make-up for the soil survey project office in the region.

**GOAL:** Hold Soil Survey Workplanning Conference for West Virginia and also attend those conferences in other states in MO-13 region. **WHO:** Carpenter/Delp.

**GOAL:** Work to re-establish working relationship with soil scientist on the Monongahela National Forest. **WHO:** Carpenter.

**Priority 9. Provide SSURGO certification support for 19 datasets in MO-13 as per schedule (see Figure 3).**

**GOAL:** Ensure each county has proper review and certification Documentation. **WHO:** staff

**GOAL:** Work with individual states to complete the necessary documentation work for certification. **WHO:** Staff

**Priority 10. Emphasize Technical Soil Services and Urban Interpretations.**

**GOAL:** Emphasize urban interpretations at West Virginia Soil Survey Work Planning Conference. **WHO:** Delp, Carpenter

**Priority 11. Provide Training Opportunities for Soil Scientists in MO-13 Area.**

**GOAL:** Provide three (3) NASIS training sessions (to include MUG).  
**WHO:** Dobos, Delp, Carpenter, NSSC Staff

**GOAL:** Work with state conservationist to hold MO-13 workshop in Beckley to include soil scientists from PA, OH, VA, WV, NJ, and MD. Workshop will focus

on progressive correlation, map compilation, and suggested procedures for updating soil surveys. WHO: Carpenter

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Staff Area of Responsibility Map

Figure 2. MO-13 Project Status Map

Figure 3. 2002 SSURGO Listing

## APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Manuscript Status

Appendix 2. NRI Business Plan